

External Evaluations and Recognitions

External evaluation (as of March, 2025)

For 19 consecutive years, we have been announced by the U.S. think-tank Ethisphere as one of the “World’s Most Ethical Companies®.” For five consecutive years, we have been selected as a triple A company in the three fields of climate change, forest, and water security by the international non-profit organization CDP. Kao has been well-received every year across the globe.

* “World’s Most Ethical Companies” and “Ethisphere” names and marks are registered trademarks of Ethisphere LLC.

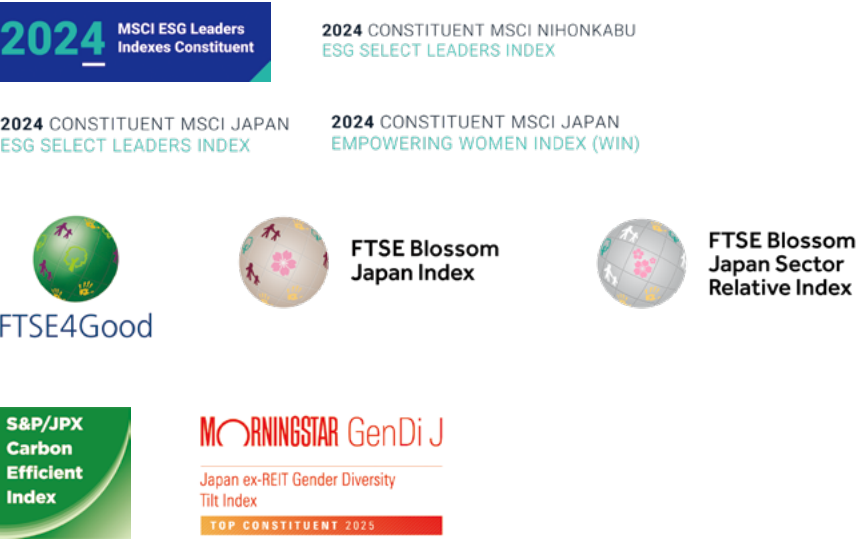


Our declarations to society

- Support for the United Nations Global Compact
<https://www.kao.com/global/en/sustainability/klp/policy/globalcompact/>
- Declaration of Consumer-orientation
<https://www.kao.com/jp/sustainability/klp/policy/customer-first/>

Socially responsible investment indexes (as of March, 2025)

Kao has been included in the following leading indexes in recognition of having this credibility globally.



SRI indexes and evaluations (updated as needed)
<https://www.kao.com/global/en/sustainability/pdf/recognition/>

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Major recognitions

Date awarded	Group name	Name of award or external evaluation	Reason/details for selection	Name of provider (sponsoring organization)
2024/2	Kao Corporation	Kao, Lion, Ito-Yokado, Welcia Yakkyoku and Hamakyorex jointly received the Minister of Environment Award in the Sixth Japan Open Innovation Prize	The Minister of Environment Award was given in recognition of initiatives for RecyCreation*1 activities for the collection and horizontal material recycling of refill packs. The Japan Open Innovation Prize honors cases of sustainable open innovation that have a major social impact and serve as a model for others. *1 The idea combines recycling, which is reverting something that has been used back into a resource, and creation, which is creating new value. The concept is "We want to change the common practice of throwing things away after they are used."	Cabinet Office
2024/3	Kashima Plant Kao Corporation	The Kashima Plant received the Factory Management Award in the GOOD FACTORY Awards in 2024	The GOOD FACTORY Awards are given to factories in Japan, China and other Asian countries for their efforts to improve productivity and quality, as well as for their activities in innovating their business structure. It recognizes a wide range of achievements, including processes, success factors, on-site ideas, change in employee attitudes, and social contributions, to serve as a model for the Japanese manufacturing industry. Kao was selected for the Factory Management Award, which honors excellent plant management, with a high all-around standard and a good overall balance.	Japan Management Association
2024/5	Kao Corporation	Kao received the RC Jury's Special Award in the 18th Responsible Care Award from the Japan Chemical Industry Association	Kao was recognized for its efforts to establish a close cooperative system with the local administrative authorities and community with a view to strengthening communications with them in case of a fire or other emergency and minimizing risks in the event of a chemical leak.	Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)
2024/5	Toyohashi Plant Kao Corporation	The Toyohashi Plant received the First Prize in the 48th Safety Award from the Japan Chemical Industry Association	The First Prize in the Safety Award is a mark of honor for a business site that implements excellent safety activities and sets a good practice model for others to follow. The Toyohashi Plant was highly evaluated for the activities it had carried out in close cooperation with partner companies.	Japan Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)
2024/5	Kao Taiwan	Global ESG Corporate Sustainability Award	Kao continuously creates high-quality products to meet the needs of Taiwanese consumers in the daily cleaning. It has also exerted its corporate influence through local ESG actions, which was recognized. Kao actively promotes product recycling and plastic reduction, launches rooting education actions, and advocates for the transformation to a sustainable lifestyle.	Global Views Monthly
2024/6	Kao Paper Manufacturing Fuji	Kao Paper Manufacturing Fuji received the Director's award from the Japan Association for Safety of Hazardous Materials	The award honored the company as a business related to hazardous materials with prominent success in achieving safety by independently and proactively promoting safety measures related to hazardous material facilities and treatment, carrying out thorough training about safe management for hazardous materials, as well as other activities.	Japan Association for Safety of Hazardous Materials
2024/7	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	ThaiFDA Quality Award 2024 (Best of The Best award in the cosmetic sector)	ThaiFDA award is a prestigious honor given by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to manufacturers that uphold high quality standard, consumer responsibility, morality and ethics, serving as role models for other manufacturers.	Ministry of Public health
2024/7	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	ThaiFDA Quality Award 2024 (Outstanding enterprises for Hazardous Substance Products sector)	ThaiFDA award is a prestigious honor given by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to manufacturers that uphold high quality standard, consumer responsibility, morality and ethics, serving as role models for other manufacturers.	Ministry of Public health

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2024/7	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Green Industry Level 4	Green Industry Award give to the industry that are committed to improve production process and continuous improvement of environmental management system for environment friendly operation and commit to operating business with social responsibility both internal and external throughout the supply chain for sustainable development	Ministry of Industry
2024/7	Kao Indonesia Chemicals	BLUE RANK in Corporate Performance Appraisal Program in Environmental Management (PROPER program)	Recognized for 100% compliance in management of Environment (Hazardous waste, air and water pollution control)	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
2024/7	Kao Penang Group	Community Care & Renewable Energy Leadership in CSR and Sustainability Malaysia Award Year 2024	Achieving outstanding performance in sustainability and corporate social responsibility initiatives and is recognized to have excelled in the role of change agents in the socio-economic transformation of Malaysia	CSR Malaysia and supported by Ministry of Women, Family & Community Development Malaysia
2024/8	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Green Office Award (Silver Medal) of the year 2023	The Green Office Award presents multifaceted challenges of organizations such as organizing green activities within office, focusing on environmental management and effective waste management to minimize environmental impacts, efficiently using energy and resources, and utilizing environmentally friendly office supplies. The ultimate goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
2024/8	Kao Taiwan	2024 Taiwan Sustainable Action Award	Kao continued to deepen the local involvement and promote sustainability, winning the Silver Award at the Taiwan Sustainable Action Award for “SDG14 and Kao to create a sustainable life together”.	Taiwan Institute for Sustainable Energy (TAISE)
2024/9	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Occupational Health and Safety National level as the 6th year of achievement	Kao retain the award for the “Proceed in compliance with Safety Legals, No employees have suffered serious work-related accidents and Established to promote safety discipline and culture”	Ministry of Labor
2024/9	Kao Taiwan	Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility	Promote the “Formosa 1520 Ocean Plan” initiative to reduce plastic at the source, actively invest in reducing plastic in our own products, and promote cleanliness and safety education for children.	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌
2024/9	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Thailand Labor Management Excellence Award 2024 (Standard Level)	Certification of business establishments that treat labor in accordance with the requirements of the Thai Labor Standard, TLS 8001, in the areas included to general requirements, labor management systems as required by law, forced labor, determination of compensation for work, working hours and rest periods, discrimination, discipline and punishment, sexual harassment and violence, child labor, female labor, freedom of association and collective bargaining, safety occupational health and working environment, and labor welfare	Ministry of Labor
2024/10	Kao Corporation	Recycled refill packs developed by Kao received the 48th Kinoshita Award	Kao received the 48th Kinoshita Award in the Research and Development Category along with collaborating companies*2 for the recycled Welcome Back Refill Pack, which employs technology for the horizontal recycling of used refill packs. *2 Lion Corporation, Fuji Seal, Inc., Mitsui Chemicals, Inc., Prime Polymer Co., Ltd., and TOSOH CORPORATION	Japan Packaging Institute

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2024/10	Kao Corporation	NEWTLAC 5000 received the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Award in the 2024 Resource Circulation Technology and System Awards	NEWTLAC 5000, an asphalt modifier that improves pavement durability made by transforming waste PET using proprietary technologies, received the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Award in the Resource Circulation Technology and System Awards. This award aims to promote reductions in environmental impact through 3R activities regarding waste, as well as the spread of circular business.	Japan Environmental Management Association for Industry
2024/11	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Amata Best Waste Management Award 2024 (Platinum level)	AMATA best waste management Award, prestigious program aims to promote and support the enhancement of industrial waste management practices within the AMATA industrial Estate. KIT was achieved the highest rank (Platinum rank) for waste management conforming to Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT) requirements. KIT received the award for the 7th consecutive year.	Amata Corporation and IEAT (Industrial Estate Authorities of Thailand)
2024/12	Kao China	Excellent ESG report selected by the Shanghai Foreign Investment Association	The Changning District Commission of Commerce gives awards regarding excellent ESG reports to 10 regional head offices of multinational companies in Shanghai, and Kao was selected among these companies.	Changning District Commission of Commerce, Shanghai Foreign Investment Association
2024/12	Kao China	Kao China won the Packaging Material and Components Prize and the Eco Package Prize at the AsiaStar 2024 Awards	The Kao (China) Research and Development Center was recognized for some of the industry's best achievements in technology innovation and environmental protection activities. It received the Packaging Material and Components Prize for the "structural design of a 20-times air ratio pump foamer" and the Eco Package Prize for the "Application of PCR Resin technology in Bioré cosmetics."	Asian Packaging Federation (APF)
2024/12	Kao Taiwan	2024 Taiwan Corporate Sustainability Awards	Kao has promoted localized ESG actions, and won the TCSA Taiwan Top 10 Sustainable Foreign Enterprise Award for five consecutive years. Kao promote the process to reduce carbon emissions, expand the use of recycled plastics from product bottles to shrink labels, and promote consumer empathy for sustainability through education.	Taiwan Institute for Sustainable Energy (TAISE)
2024/12	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	Human Rights Award 2024	The Human Rights Awards reflect Kao's commitment to conduct business with good governance, transparency, verification according to human rights principles. Kao has integrated human rights considerations and put it into our policies and practices throughout the supply chain.	Ministry of Justic
2024/12	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	CSR-DIW Continuous Award 2024	CSR-DIW continuous award is the award that given to the factory that implemented the CSR align with 7 core subjects of Responsibility guideline of Department of Industry (MOI). KIT received the award for the 4th consecutive years.	Ministry of Industry
2024/12	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	The Prime Minister's Industry Award 2024: Environmental Quality Conservation category	The Prime Minister's Industry award is the prestigious award of Thailand's industry which held by Ministry of Industry. There are 9 categories of this award. KIT won the Environmental Quality Conservation category. KIT has an outstanding environmental management align with the award criteria in 5 sections that are business achievement, Environmental policy and employee participating in all level, Pollution control and emergency preparedness, Pollution prevention and BCG (Bio-Circular Green economy) conduct and Social responsibility.	Ministry of Industry

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2024/12	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	The Prime Minister's Industry Award 2024: Corporate Social Responsibility category	The Prime Minister's Industry award is the prestigious award of Thailand's industry which held by Ministry of Industry. There are 9 categories of this award. KIT won the Corporate Social Responsibility category. KIT has an outstanding corporate social responsibility management align with the award criteria in 5 sections that are certified standard, CSR in process, CSR after process , Sustainable Development Goals : SDGs encouragement and Model of CSR outstanding project (Dengue Zero).	Ministry of Industry
2024/12	Kao Industrial (Thailand)	BMA Partnership Award 2024	BMA (Bangkok Metropolitan Administration) Partnership award an honorary award for organizations contributing to BMA is presented annually to companies that regularly support BMA's initiatives.	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)
2025/1	Kao Corporation	Kao received the Gold Prize, the highest prize at Japan Branding Awards 2024	Kao was highly evaluated for its initiatives to understand social trends and changes in consumers after the COVID-19 pandemic, review the social issues it should tackle in the future, as well as the ideal status for <i>Bioré</i> , and incorporate a new purpose into its product business in an agile manner to achieve business growth.	Interbrand Japan, Inc.
2025/1	Kao Corporation	<i>Toilet Magiclean Foam Pack</i> received an award in the Trending category at the 2024 Nikkei Superior Products and Services Awards	<i>Toilet Magiclean Foam Pack</i> received an award in the Trending category at the 2024 Nikkei Superior Products and Services Awards. The Nikkei Superior Products and Services Awards are held annually by Nikkei Inc. to honor new products and services that are particularly excellent. The 43rd edition of the awards was held in 2024. All the candidate products and services are selected by Nikkei Inc. individually, without any public nominations.	Nikkei Inc.
2025/1	Kao Malaysia	<i>Magiclean</i> received a Silver Award at the Putra Aria Brand Awards	<i>Magiclean</i> received a Silver Award in the Household Products Category at the Putra Aria Brand Awards. The Putra Aria Brand Awards is a prestigious ceremony for honoring brands that engage with consumers. <i>Magiclean</i> has received this award for the second consecutive year, reaffirming its status as a trusted and reliable choice among Malaysian consumers.	Association of Accredited Advertising Agents Malaysia (4As)
2025/2	Kao Corporation	Kao has received the Cabinet Office Minister of State for Special Missions commendation, the highest award, in the 2024 Commendation in the Good Practices of Consumer-Oriented Management Awards	The award was given to Kao in recognition of its consumer-oriented product development that encourages environment-friendly actions to meet consumer needs and enhance environmental awareness. Such consumer-oriented products include <i>CuCute</i> dishwashing detergent, where Kao has reduced the bottle wall thickness to cut down on plastic use while retaining durability and ease of refilling. Another is <i>Bioré UV Aqua Rich Aqua Protect Mist</i> sunscreen spray, a non-gas mist that is easy to reapply on the go and features a replaceable container.	Consumer Affairs Agency

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